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# AIRGRAM

Original to be Filed in \_\_\_\_\_ Decentralized Files.

HANDLING INDICATOR \_\_\_\_\_ CONFIDENTIAL

TO : The American Embassy Moscow

FROM : The Department of State

SUBJECT : House Agriculture Committee Visit.

REF : DEPTTEL 970, EMBTEL 1212, DEPTTEL 1052

After informing the House Agriculture Committee of the Embassy's views on the proposed visit to the USSR, the Department was advised on October 18 that the Committee now plans to drop the USSR from its itinerary. However, the Department understands that a final decision on the trip has not yet been made, and there is a possibility that the Committee will decide to visit the USSR after all. In any event, the trip will not begin on November 1, and the Embassy should have adequate time to approach the Soviets regarding the visit if the Committee reverts to its original itinerary.

According to a member of the Committee staff, the decision not to visit the USSR was unrelated to the possibility of a negative response from the Soviets. Apparently the Committee had to choose between visiting the USSR or attending an FAO conference which is scheduled to take place in Rome at the end of November. Ambassador Kohler was in full agreement with the views expressed in EMBTEL 1212.

RUSK

State Department review completed

CONFIDENTIAL

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